

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 5138

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DEPT PLEASE PASS USMISSION USUN NY, AMEMBASSY LONDON,
AND AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ZA, US
SUBJ: ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VIEWS ON SOUTHERN
AFRICA

1. THIS MESSAGE SUMMARIZES PORTIONS OF FOREIGN
MINISTER MWALE'S APRIL 10 CONVERSATION WITH UNGA
PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE AND USUN OFFICER HIRSCH
DEALING WITH THE ZAMBIAN APPROACH TO THE STRUGGLE
AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA AND HIS VIEW OF THE
CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S AFRICAN POLICY. (MWALE'S VIEWS
ON THE UK ROLE AND THE OWEN/THOMSON VISIT TO LUSAKA
HAVE BEEN TRANSMITTED SEPTTEL.)

2. THE ZAMBIAN APPROACH TO SOUTHERN AFRICA - MWALE
SAID THAT ZAMBIA HAS GONE ALL OUT IN THE LAST 11 YEARS
TO SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE AGAINST RHODESIAN AND SOUTH
AFRICA. ZAMBIA HAS LOST MORE MEN IN SUPPORTING THESE
INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENTS THAN IT HAD IN ITS OWN WAR OF
INDEPENDENCE. ZAMBIA HAS LOST MORE THAN \$600 MILLION
SINCE 1967 IN CAPITAL FUNDS DIVERTED FROM ITS OWN DEVELOP-
MENT IN SUPPORTING THE STRUGGLE AGAINST RHODESIA AND
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SOUTH AFRICA.

3. ZAMBIA, MWALE CONTINUED, WILL NOT ATTACK SOUTH AFRICA
DIRECTLY. THE BLACK AFRICANS KNOW FULL WELL THAT THE
SAG HAS MILITARY SUPERIORITY. MOREOVER, VORSTER WOULD
ACTUALLY WELCOME AN AFRICAN INVASION BECAUSE THIS WOULD
ENABLE HIM TO DEPICT HIMSELF TO THE INTERNATIONAL COM-

MUNITY AS THE AGGRIEVED PARTY. THE ONLY VIABLE APPROACH NOW IS ARMED STRUGGLE FROM WITHIN AND ZAMBIA FULLY SUPPORTS THE EFFORTS OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. THE GENEVA TALKS, IN WHICH THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS HAD PARTICIPATED, WERE ONE ASPECT OF THIS ARMED STRUGGLE.

4. THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, MWALE SAID, CONSTITUTED A GENUINE THREAT TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY. IT COULD EVEN LEAD TO NUCLEAR WAR. SOME COUNTRIES STILL DID NOT APPRECIATE THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION, DEDUCING FROM STATISTICS THAT SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA REMAINED UNBEATABLE. THIS APPROACH IGNORES THE HUMAN FACTOR AND REPEATS A MISTAKE WHICH HAS BEEN MADE IN OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD.

5. THE WESTERN PRESS AND AFRICA - MWALE EXPRESSED STRONG DISSATISFACTION WITH WHAT HE CHARACTERIZED AS THE DOUBLE STANDARD OF MORALITY OF THE WESTERN PRESS IN DEALING WITH SOUTHERN AFRICA. THE RECENT MURDER OF 700 ZAMBIANS BY THE RHODESIAN ARMY, HE SAID, HAD RECEIVED VIRTUALLY NO COVERAGE IN THE WEST. IN CONTRAST, AMIN'S MURDER OF MRS DORA BLOCH HAD RECEIVED EXTENSIVE ATTENTION IN THE WESTERN PRESS.

6. THE US ROLE - SPEAKING TO MWALE ALONE AFTER AMERASINGHE LEFT, HIRSCH RECALLED THAT HE HAD BRIEFED ZAMBIAN UN REP KAMANA ON APRIL 8 ON THE FIVE POWER DEMARCHE ON NAMIBIA. THE US, HE NOTED, WAS COMMITTED TO TRYING TO BRING ABOUT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE COMPLEX PROBLEMS

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OF SOUTH AFRICA. MWALE SAID THAT HE APPRECIATED THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WAS INDEED TRYING TO MOVE THE SITUATION FORWARD. THE REPEAL OF THE BYRD AMENDMENT WAS A "FEATHER IN THE CAP" OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. MWALE ADDED THAT HE RECOGNISED THAT AMERICAN POLICY TOWARDS SOUTHERN AFRICA DEPENDED NOT ONLY ON THE ADMINISTRATION BUT ALSO ON THE CONGRESS AND OTHER GROUPS. HE WAS HOPEFUL THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD CONTINUE TO PURSUE A NEW APPROACH OF WHICH THE FIRST POSITIVE SIGNS WERE ALREADY EVIDENT.

7. MWALE SAID THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG HAD TAKEN ON A TOUGH ASSIGNMENT IN ACCEPTING THE UN AMBASSADORSHIP. HE RECALLED WITH GREAT PLEASURE THEIR RECENT MEETING IN ZANZIBAR. HE SAID THAT HE HAD GREAT RESPECT FOR YOUNG BECAUSE HE WAS A MAN OF PRINCIPLE. THIS WAS NOT A MATTER OF RACE BUT OF VALUES. IN CONCLUDING THE CONVERSATION, MWALE ASKED HIRSCH TO EXTEND HIS WARM PERSONAL REGARDS TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG. HE LOOKED FORWARD

TO MEETING HIM AGAIN ON HIS NEXT VISIT TO NEW YORK FOR
THE 32ND UNGA.
SCHNEIDER

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED.

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